

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,**

**vs.**

**MICHAEL JEROME WILLIAMS,**

Defendant.

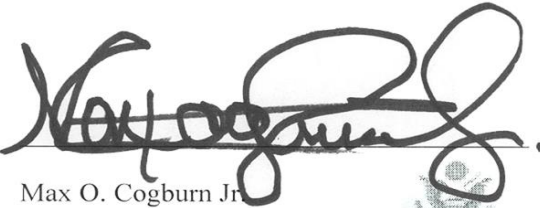
By its terms, 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A)(i) authorizes criminal defendants to request compassionate release from imprisonment based on “extraordinary and compelling reasons.” But before doing so, they must at least ask the Bureau of Prisons to do so on their behalf and give the Bureau thirty days to respond. See United States v. Raia, 954 F.3d 594, 595 (3d Cir. 2020). Here, because Defendant has failed to show he exhausted administrative remedies provided by the Bureau, the Court declines to exercise any discretion it may have to modify his term of imprisonment at this time. See, e.g., United States v. Vigna, No. 16-CR-786, 2020 WL 1900495, at \*6 (S.D.N.Y. Apr. 17, 2020) (declining to address the exhaustion question and requiring a defendant to file a compassionate release request with the Bureau).

## ORDER

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED** that Defendant's pro se Motion for Compassionate Release/Reduction of Sentence, (Doc. No. 28), is **DENIED**. Furthermore, Defendant's Motion to

Appoint Counsel, (Doc. No. 30), is also **DENIED**, as he has no constitutional right to counsel on a motion for reduction in sentence.

Signed: January 6, 2021



Max O. Cogburn Jr.  
United States District Judge